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25 October 1968

PROJECT MERRIMACK - Special Report

On 22 October 1968 the CBW Mid-Atlantic Committee on Ft. Detrick held a meeting at 2140 P Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.. Plans were discussed to hold the proposed Frederick, Maryland, meeting on 19 November at Hood College, and the speakers are scheduled to be Seymour HERSCHE and (Fmu) ROSEBURY. This meeting will get under way at 2015 hours, and a question/answer period will follow. After the meeting, an informal gathering will be held at the Brethren Church which is within walking distance of the Hood campus.

It was suggested that the CBW hold another meeting after November 19th in Frederick, Maryland, and invite the local people.

The following individuals were in attendance:

Attachment:  
Mid-Atlantic Committee  
flyer dtd 19 Oct 68

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October 19, 1968

To: Members, Federation of American Scientists of the  
Metropolitan Washington Area.

From: Mid-Atlantic Committee on Fort Detrick

Re: Fort Detrick

We are writing to you especially because of your health related research work, and because of our concern about Fort Detrick. It is our feeling that you, in particular, are aware of the potential dangers of chemical and biological warfare, and more importantly, that you are sufficiently concerned to assist us in an educational project.

Fort Detrick was established in Frederick, Md. in 1943, but security policies kept its purposes a secret from the community until after World War II. Even today few residents are fully aware of the possible consequences of living in a city that harbors a center for germ war research. Fort Detrick apparently exerts so much economic influence on the city of Frederick that the impetus in the non-scientific community for a real discussion of biological and chemical warfare has not taken place. Insulated from discussion, Fort Detrick scientists continue to divorce their technical skills from human concerns and responsibilities.

The work of Fort Detrick employees constitutes in essence, a moral perversion of the nobler aims of science. A former researcher at Fort Detrick, Dr. Theodor Rosebury, succinctly stated the issue: "Biological warfare is public health upside down. It aims to hurt, to cripple, to destroy - people, useful animals, food and other plants. Even when the immediate targets are animals or plants the final ones are always people."

We propose to bring this issue of human and moral responsibility to the Frederick and Montgomery County communities. Seymour Hersh, journalist and author of Chemical and Biological Warfare, and Dr. Rosebury, presently Professor Emeritus of Bacteriology at Washington University, have agreed to speak in Frederick at the Price Auditorium, Hood College on November 19.

Our immediate dilemma centers on the need for money to fully publicize the meetings as well as to pay the travel expenses incurred by our speakers. We ask for your help. A contribution of \$5.00, or more if you are able, will help ensure a successful meeting.

We hope that you will contact us for more information, or with ideas you might offer. Our address is,

Mid-Atlantic Committee on Fort Detrick  
2140 P Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C.